# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# TRIBAL AFFAIRS
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:188
ANSWERED ON:26.07.2002
DEVELOPMENT SCHEME FOR TRIBALS
LAXMAN GILUWA

**Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the schemes formulated for the development of the tribal areas and tribal people generally remain only on paper and these schemes are not implemented effectively in the tribal dominated areas;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the tribals are not aware of the schemes and programmes meant for them; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to make to tribals aware of the schemes and programmes undertaken for their development?

## Answer

MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM)

(a)&(b) No, Sir. The tribals across the country have over the years improved their living standards as revealed from various human development indicators. The literacy rates amongst STs has increased from 8.50% in 1961 to 29.60% in 1991.The percentage of Scheduled Tribes population below the poverty line has come down from the level of 68.10 in 1977-78 to 41.4 (urban) and 51.94 (rural) in 1993-94. The number of ST persons employed in different jobs in the Government of Indiahas increased from 50,889 in 1965 to 2,17,705 in 1995.

(c)&(d)The Tribals are generally aware of the schemes and programmes since the information on schemes for Tribal Development percolate down to the grass-root level, and plans are drawn up on a need basis and as per the demands of local people and local representatives, by the State authorities. In addition, the Government of India has floated a new scheme `Exchange of visits by Tribals` from 2001-02 with a view to enable members of Scheduled Tribes from one State to visit other States in the country, enabling them to acquire more knowledge and develop awareness about opportunities available for their development.